IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Thomas GRAFENAUER Group Art Unit: 1774

Appln. No. : 10/697,560 Examiner: L. D. Ferguson

Filed: October 31, 2003 Confirmation No.: 8411

For : PANEL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A PANEL

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 *et seq.*, Applicants respectfully bring the following documents, listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the materials cited and indicate such consideration by appropriately initialing the enclosed PTO-1449 and including a copy of the initialed form in the next official communication.

Copies of the cited/listed non-U.S. patent documents are included herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the documents are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which Applicants are aware. Applicants became aware of the documents cited herein through

the prosecution of previous patent applications before the USPTO and abroad, and through extensive litigation in the floor panel industry, including, for example, *Alloc, Inc. v. International Trade Commission*, 342 F.3d 1361, 68 U.S.P.Q. 1161 (Fed. Cir. 2003). Accordingly, these documents are being submitted pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and to assist the Examiner in performing the most effective examination process.

Applicants note that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after receipt of the first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311. Accordingly, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089, including the amount of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for consideration of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas GRAFENAUER

Andrew M. Calderon Reg. No. 38,093

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

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